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PTO/SB/21 (03-03)

Approved for use through 04/30/2003. OMB 0651-0031
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**TRANSMITTAL
FORM**

(to be used for all correspondence after initial filing)

Total Number of Pages in This Submission

Application Number

10/717,543

Filing Date

November 21, 2003

First Named Inventor

THOMAS GERLACH et al

Art Unit

Examiner Name

Attorney Docket Number

ENCLOSURES (Check all that apply)

<input type="checkbox"/> Fee Transmittal Form	<input type="checkbox"/> Drawing(s)	<input type="checkbox"/> After Allowance Communication to a Technology Center (TC)
<input type="checkbox"/> Fee Attached	<input type="checkbox"/> Licensing-related Papers	<input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to Board of Appeals and Interferences
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<input type="checkbox"/> After Final	<input type="checkbox"/> Petition to Convert to a Provisional Application	<input type="checkbox"/> Proprietary Information
<input type="checkbox"/> Affidavits/declaration(s)	<input type="checkbox"/> Power of Attorney, Revocation	<input type="checkbox"/> Status Letter
<input type="checkbox"/> Extension of Time Request	<input type="checkbox"/> Change of Correspondence Address	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other Enclosure(s) (please identify below): LETTER, REFERENCES
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<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement	<input type="checkbox"/> Request for Refund	
<input type="checkbox"/> Certified Copy of Priority Document(s)	<input type="checkbox"/> CD, Number of CD(s) _____	
<input type="checkbox"/> Response to Missing Parts/ Incomplete Application		
<input type="checkbox"/> Response to Missing Parts under 37 CFR 1.52 or 1.53		
Remarks		

SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT

Firm or Individual

William D. Breneman, Esq.
BRENEMAN & GEORGES

Signature

Date

February 20, 2004

CERTIFICATE OF TRANSMISSION/MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being facsimile transmitted to the USPTO or deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231 on this date:

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This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.5. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 12 minutes to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, Washington, DC 20231. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231.

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PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:

THOMAS GERLACH

Serial No.: 10/717,543

Group Art Unit:

Filed: November 21, 2004

Examiner:

For: STAPLING DEVICE

February 20, 2004

* * * *

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Honorable Commissioner of
Patents and Trademarks
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Pursuant to Rule 56 of the Rules of Practice in Patent and Trademark Cases (37 CFR § 1.56) Applicant submits copies of the references discussed in a German Search Report dated September 29, 2003.

These references included on Form PTO-1449 appended hereto as Exhibit A are as follows:

U.S. Patents

4,516,714 (Oskar J. Braun et al.)
May 14, 1985

THOMAS GERLACH et al.
U.S. Patent Application S.N. 10/717,543

International Patents

DE 197 50 143 A1 (Brehmer Buchbindereimaschinen GmbH)
November 12, 1997

DE 197 22 298 A1 (Eastman Kodak)
May 28, 1997

DE 38 39 306 A1 (Kodak AG)
November 21, 1988

DE 697 03 469 T2 (Xerox Corp.)
August 5, 1997

The German references are part of a German search report received in the German parent application.

To the extent available the references are in English or have been translated to English.

Although no fee is believed required for the Information Disclosure Statement, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fee or credit any overpayment which may be required by this Information Disclosure Statement to Deposit Account No. 02-3702.

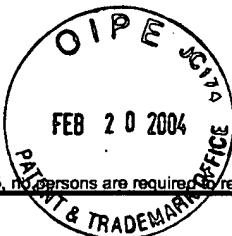
A duplicate copy of this sheet is attached.

Respectfully submitted,

BRENEMAN & GEORGES

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PTO/SB/08A (04-03)

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Substitute for form 1449/PTO

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

(Use as many sheets as necessary)

Sheet

01

Complete if Known

Application Number	10/717,543
Filing Date	November 21, 2003
First Named Inventor	THOMAS GERLACH et al
Art Unit	
Examiner Name	
Attorney Docket Number	

U. S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages Or Relevant Figures Appear	T ⁶
		Country Code ³ -Number ⁴ -Kind Code ⁵ (if known)				
		DE 197 50 143 A1	11-12-1997	Brehmer Buchbin.		
		DE 197 22 298 A1	05-28-1997	Eastman Kodak		
		DE 38 39 306 A1	11-21-1988	Kodak AG		
		DE 697 03 469 T2	08-05-1997	Xerox Corp.		

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
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***EXAMINER:** Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.¹ Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional).² See Kinds of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04.³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3).⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document.⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible.⁶ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

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